Georgia Tech College of Computing
Computational Science and Engineering

17 January 2013

John Towns
3034 NCSA
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
1205 W. Clark St.
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear John:

The Keeneland Project wishes to participate in the XSEDE Federation and SP Forum as a Level 1 Service Provider (SP) through its delivery of system operational support, user information, extended collaborative services, and EOT for the computational resource called the Keeneland Full Scale System (KFS). KFS is a 615 TFLOPS HP SL250-based supercomputer with 264 nodes, each with two Intel Sandy Bridge processors, three NVIDIA M2090 GPU accelerators, 32 GB of host memory, and an InfiniBand FDR interconnect. KFS is connected to the NICS Lustre file system. KFS can be used for both capability and capacity computing within the XSEDE environment.

The Keeneland architecture has been and continues to be a solid platform for supercomputing, enabling science in a variety of disciplines and will provide an extremely high throughput computing for the XSEDE user base. The Keeneland Initial Delivery System (KIDS) was utilized as an XSEDE resource until KFS was accepted by NSF. KIDS will continue to be used as an EOT resource. The XSEDE software stack and accounting is available on both KIDS and KFS.

Keeneland user and operations support are provided by NICS, and advanced user/application support is provided by Georgia Tech by way of the Cooperative Agreement from the NSF. Keeneland provides live training multiple times per year, and videos of sessions from the Keeneland tutorial are available on the Keeneland web site. The Keeneland web site contains documentation on using the Keeneland system, and the documentation has been modified to conform to XSEDE formats. The Keeneland Project has supported other XSEDE institutions by providing GPU expert training and by providing time on KIDS for hands-on training.

We have reviewed the XD Service Providers Forum: Charter, Membership, and Governance document (version 10.1, dated 2 February 2012, at https://www.xsede.org/documents/10157/281380/SPF_Definition_v10.1_120228.pdf) that defines the mutual responsibilities of XSEDE and an SP and are confident that we can and will fulfill our obligations as described therein. In the event that you have an issue with our performance, please contact me, directly.

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Conversely, the Keeneland Project expects XSEDE to comply with their responsibilities as outlined in Table 1 in the document referenced above. Furthermore, Keeneland's participation in the XSEDE Federation will allow it to leverage the XSEDE network, software, and services to better serve the NSF computationally intense research community. Through this mutually beneficial relationship, a broader community will have access to our resources, our software, and our training; and the XSEDE staff will be able to provide services to our users that we would not be able to provide. If we perceive an issue, we will contact you. In either case we commit to work with you to resolve any issues.

We on the Keeneland Project look forward to working with XSEDE to advance the mission of XSEDE and the NSF in advancing the nation's research capability.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Vetter, PhD
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